

ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1965

Town Hall,  
Royton,  
Lancs.



*With the Compliments  
of  
The Medical Officer  
of Health*

*Town Hall,  
Poyton.*



(1)

ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council, 1965-66.

Councillor H. Stephenson J.P.

- - - - -

Health Committee 1965-66

Councillor G.L. Buckley J.P. Chairman

Councillor J. Ogden Vice-Chairman

Councillor T. Buckley

" F. Butler

" J. Crothers

" G. Day

" A. Fairbrother

" W.A. Hilton

" Mrs. V. Lockwood

" W. Monks

" W.C. Nixon

" G. Sherratt J.P.

" G.A. Sidgwick

" H. Stephenson J.P.

" A. Taylor

- - - - -

Medical Officer of Health

Gilbert R. Brackenridge M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
Town Hall, Royton.

Telephone No. MAIn (Oldham) 5271

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

Eric J.H. Foster, M.B., Ch.B.D. (Obs) R.C.O.G., D.P.H.  
(to October 1965)

Joan M. Curtis, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(from 5th January 1966)

Senior Public Health Inspector.

C. Buckley, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

Neil H. Morton, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,  
M.R.I.P.H.H.  
(from June 1965)


Meat Inspectors.

John Salt, M.A.M.I., M.Inst.M., A.R.S.H.

John B. Smith, M.A.M.I., M.Inst.M., A.R.S.H.

Clerk/Typist.

Mrs. B. Wilson



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Town Hall,  
Royton.

September 1966.

To: The Chairman and Members of the  
Royton Urban District Council.

Mr.Chairman, Madam, Gentlemen,

In accordance with Paragraph 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, I submit this, my Annual Report on the Public Health and allied services in the District for the year ended 31st December 1965. The general format of the report is as in recent years but with certain amendments of text and tabular material.

There has been a further increase in population during the year and the mid-1965 estimate of 16,200 is 650 more than mid-1964 estimate and over 1,700 more than 1961 Census returns. With 346 live births, the Crude Birth Rate has further risen to 21.4, giving an adjusted rate of 22.2 compared with a national rate of 18.1 per thousand. The total of 196 deaths gives a Crude Death Rate of 12.1 and adjusted rate of 13.2 to compare with a national rate of 11.5. While the stillbirth rate has risen in comparison with recent years, I would again advise great caution in attempting to interpret such fluctuations in a comparatively small total population from year to year; broadly speaking, one can say that Infant Mortality Rates as a whole show little change over the past 4 or 5 years.

There was a substantial fall in the prevalence of notifiable Infectious Diseases (less than 50% of 1964 notifications) due principally to substantial reductions in incidence of Measles and Dysentery. In later pages of the report your Senior Public Health Inspector has mentioned the work falling on the department by reason of Brucella infection of cattle. The exact incidence of this in humans is difficult to estimate by reason of difficulty in diagnosing the disease save by lengthy laboratory tests.

In later sections of the report members will note that a total of 555 new dwellings (including 81 houses for the Council) were completed in the District during the year and at 31st December 250 dwellings were under construction on the Holly Mill site. During the year a general survey of housing was made by your department with a view to re-phasing of Clearance Programmes. Following upon the appointment of a Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, the department was able to re-start on representation of Clearance Areas and by 31st December, 6 areas comprising a total of 111 houses had been formally represented to you. During the year it was agreed that, as an experiment, a private firm of architects be retained by the Council to assist in inspection of housing under the Housing Acts. Their report on a number of properties in the Rochdale Road area was presented in January 1966. As members will recollect, I advised that this arrangement was a somewhat unusual one and fraught with difficulties, particularly if any form of Public Enquiry were held in connection with proposed Clearance Areas. While the technical competence of the firm is not in question, the form of inspection and preparation of appropriate reports is dependent upon training in Public Health work - one would not expect the writer, although holding a Surgical Degree, to undertake any major surgery without further training and revision.







Again following the appointment of Mr. Morton as Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector it was possible in the second half of the year to devote some time to the re-organisation of arrangements for Meat Inspection and Mr. Morton tackled this with considerable energy, so that, by the end of the year 100% inspection was in operation at both slaughterhouses. Nevertheless, I must again emphasise that, as indicated later in this report, the burden of Meat Inspection borne by the department is quite extraordinary for a District of this size and would be appropriate for an authority of about 10 times the size of Royton.

During the year the refuse collection and disposal arrangements again came under great strain, and in the early part of the year a number of unusual expedients were adopted by the Council in the oversight of these services. At the time of writing these services are once again under close scrutiny by the public, councillors and officials. I would again repeat my conviction that to provide an efficient service it is necessary, not only to invest properly in men and machinery, but to bring the whole service under unified control with a foreman specifically engaged for the task of day to day supervision.

Although, at 31st December, the department was fully "established" in that all authorised parts were filled and most aspects of work proceeding, yet I feel again compelled to advise members that I have major reservations on a number of matters of policy adopted, and also on the number of emergency expedients that have been adapted to deal with one or other aspects of the department's work. I would suggest that the Council as a body consider carefully the advice given to the Association of Municipal Corporations by Sir John Maude a few days ago. In particular I would again ask that the Council consider the possibility of investing in a properly-commissioned O & M investigation of the Public Health Department (possibly as part of a wider investigation) to ensure that resources are properly matched with demands, and that a clearer distinction be made between Policy (the business of Councillors) and Administration (the duty of Officers).

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

GILBERT R. BRACKENRIDGE

Medical Officer of Health.



General Statistics

Area in Acres		2,149
Population -	Census 1961 (Prov.)	14,476
	Registrar-General -	
	Estimate 1965	16,200
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1965		6,281
Rateable Value		£550,700
Sum represented by penny rate		£2,025

Conditions of Locality

The Urban District Council was constituted in 1894, and took the place of the Local Government Board which had been in existence since 1863. The Council now consists of fifteen members; the district being divided into five wards (Dogford, Dryclough, Haggate, Heyside and Thornham), with three Councillors representing each ward.

It is situated in the south east of the County on the lower slopes of the Pennines, and is bounded upon the north by the County Borough of Rochdale and on the south by the County Borough of Oldham. The eastern boundary adjoins the Urban District of Crompton and to the west lie the Urban District of Chadderton and the Borough of Middleton.

The number of cotton mills has again declined and the cotton trade is losing its status as the principal industry in the district. Light engineering in its various forms appears to be taking precedence.



Live Births:(total)	....	346
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate ...	156	176
Illegitimate ...	6	8
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population:		
Crude rate ...	...	21.4
Adjusted rate ...	...	22.2
(Comparability Factor 1.04)		
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births ...		4%
Stillbirths: ...		8
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and still births: ...		22.6
Total live and still births: ...		354
Infant Deaths:(deaths under 1 year) ...		6
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate ...	4	2
Illegitimate ...	-	-
Infant Mortality Rates:		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ...		17.3
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ...		18.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...		Nil.
Neo-natal Mortality Rate: (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ...		14.5
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate: (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) ...		8.7
Perinatal Mortality Rate: (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) ...		31.1
Maternal Mortality: (including abortion) ...		Nil.
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births...		Nil.
Total Deaths: (all ages) ...		196
Death rate per 1,000 population:		
Crude Rate ...		12.1
Adjusted Rate ...		13.2
(Comparability Factor 1.12)		
Principal Causes of Death:		
1. Diseases of Heart and Circulation ...		77
2. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...		32
3. Cancer (all sites) ...		32
4. Respiratory Diseases ...		26





SYNOPSIS OF CENSUS 1961 RETURNS

(a) The following table shows the proportion of population falling into major working and dependant groups:

Total Population (both sexes)		14,474	100%
Child Population	Children under school age	1,102	7.5%
	School children aged 5-14	2,132	14.5%
	Total children under 15	3,234	22%
Men 15-64 'Working Population'		4,540	31%
Women	15-44 'Reproductive Pop.'	2,780	19%
	Aged 45-60	1,663	11.5%
Elderly Persons	Females 60 and over	1,558	10.5%
	Males 65 and over	669	5%
	Total Pensionable	2,257	15.5%

(b) The following table shows the households in the district as classified by tenure and the presence of 4 specified "amenities".

Total Households		5,103	%	
Tenure	Owner Occupied	2,778	54%	
	Local Authority Owned	844	16.5%	
	Rented Unfurnished	1,263	25%	
	Other forms of tenure	218	4.5%	
Amenities	Without Exclusive Use Of	Cold Water Tap	14	-
		Hot Water System	1,245	24.5%
		Fixed Bath	1,889	37%
		Water Closet	955*	19%
	With all four above amenities		3,120	61%

\* In retrospect, the Registrar General's department have admitted this figure may be an under estimate.





Comparative Table of Principal Vital Statistics

		1965	1964	1960	1955	1945
Live Births	No.	346	317	241	191	249
	Adjusted rate	22.2	21.2	17.3	13.9	-
Stillbirths	No.	8	3	4	2	5
	Adjusted rate	22.6	9.4	16.3	10	-
Total (Live and Stillbirths)						
No.		354	320	245	193	254
Total Infant Deaths						
	No.	6	7	4	6	9
	Adjusted rate	17.3	22.1	16.4	31	-
Maternal Deaths	No.	-	-	-	-	1
	Adjusted rate	-	-	-	-	-
Total Deaths	No.	196	198	196	191	206
	Adjusted rate	13.2	14.0	15.1	13.6	-

Infant Mortality - 1965

Cause of Death	Under 1 day	1 day to 1 week	1 week to 1 month	1 month to 1 year	Total under 1
Pneumonia	-	-	1	1	2
Congenital Malformations	-	-	2	-	2
Other Defined and Ill-defined diseases	-	2	-	-	2
Totals	-	2	3	1	6



DEATHS - BY CAUSATION

CAUSES	M	F	1965	1964	1960	1955	1945
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
- Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	1	1	-	-	1	2
Diabetes	-	2	2	-	1	2	1
Other Infective & Parasitic Dis.	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasms -							
Stomach	1	2	3	3	4	5	6
Lung and Bronchus	8	1	9	12	6	4	2
Breast	-	1	1	2	2	2	5
Uterus	-	3	3	4	2	6	-
Other	7	8	15	15	10	21	17
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	2	-	4	-	-
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	14	18	32	40	19	25	20
Coronary disease - Angina	28	15	43	35	31	15	-
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1	3	6	3	-
Other heart disease	8	16	24	27	42	42	66
Other circulatory disease	4	5	9	4	16	11	2
Influenza	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	6	6	12	13	8	13	10
Bronchitis	5	6	11	16	13	7	20
Other diseases of the respiratory system	3	-	3	-	2	1	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1	-	1	1	1
Gastro-enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-	2	-	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1	3	2	1	3	7
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Congenital malformations	2	-	2	1	3	-	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	7	15	16	17	23	26
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
All other accidents	1	1	2	1	3	3	6
Suicide	1	-	1	1	3	1	3
TOTALS:	100	96	196	198	196	191	206

DEATHS - BY AGE GROUPS

YEARS	M	F	1965	1964	1960	1955	1945
Under 1	4	2	6	7	4	5	9
1 - 5	1	-	1	1	-	1	1
5 - 15	-	1	1	-	-	1	2
15 - 25	-	-	-	3	3	-	2
25 - 45	-	2	2	3	5	3	16
45 - 65	36	17	53	52	49	37	56
65 - 75	29	29	58	62	55	61	67
Over 75	30	45	75	70	80	83	53
TOTALS:	100	96	196	198	196	191	206





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Prevalence of Infectious Diseases  
1965

Statistics

The following tables show the number of cases of infectious diseases notified, age groups, and a comparison with notifications in previous years.

Notifiable Diseases	Total Notified cases in age groups										
	Total cases at all Ages	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65 and over	Age not known
Scarlet Fever	17	-	1	2	13	1	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	70	3	34	21	10	1	-	1	-	-	-
Dysentery	32	1	12	10	5	1	-	3	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis											
Respiratory	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Other	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Totals:	127	4	47	34	28	4	3	4	3	-	-

Comparison Infectious Diseases

Notifiable Diseases	1965	1964	1960	1955	1945
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-
Chicken Pox	-	-	-	-	17
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	2
Dysentery	32	96	128	222	-
Encephalitis (Acute)	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	1	2
Measles	70	167	124	261	117
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia (Acute)	-	-	2	2	6
Poliomyelitis Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-
" Non-Paralytic	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	1	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	13	-
Scarlet Fever	17	15	12	16	53
Whooping Cough	2	8	49	3	49
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	3	8	7	9	4
Non-Pulmonary	2	1	2	1	6
Totals	127	295	325	530	258





## 2. Diphtheria

Although it is now sixteen years since the last case of Diphtheria occurred in the district, the occasional small outbreaks reported in the country serve as a reminder that for our present freedom from this disease, we are primarily dependent on the maintenance of a high level of active immunisation in the child population.

## 3. Dysentery

There was a decrease from 96 to 32 cases in the prevalence of this disease in the district as compared with 1964. This disease is now generally recognised to serve as a fairly sensitive index of local standards of food preparation and personal hygiene. Most cases are fortunately mild, but the disease has a considerable nuisance value, and involves Public Health Department staff and the Laboratory Services in considerable work in collection and examination of specimens.

## 4. Food Poisoning

No cases were notified in the district for the seventh successive year.

## 5. Measles

This year there was a decrease in the cases of Measles from 167 in 1964 to 70 in 1965. The majority were mild and in children of immediate pre-school or early school age group.

## 6. Poliomyelitis

No case occurred in the district during the year, and even the most convinced critic of immunisation must find it difficult to demonstrate reasons other than large-scale vaccination for the drastic decline in national incidence of this disease in the past 8 years. It is, however, unfortunate that as supplies of vaccine improved so public interest in preventive immunisation appears to have declined.

## 7. Scarlet Fever

17 cases were notified in the district during the year. Generally speaking the causative organism of Scarlet Fever (the streptococcus) has lost a good deal of its former virulence, and, with being sensitive to a wide range of chemo-therapeutic drugs, the sporadic cases now reported are of a mild character.

## 8. Smallpox

There were no cases of this disease during the year, but scattered outbreaks were reported in other parts of the country. It must be appreciated that the proportion of infants now given routine primary vaccination within the first 2 years of life is totally inadequate to maintain adequate community resistance, and it seems that only by constant vigilance on the part of Port and Airport Health Authorities can occasional outbreaks of this disease in Britain be avoided.

## 9. Whooping Cough

2 cases were notified during the year. Assuming that the public, and especially parents of young children, are prepared to make use of modern immunological technique, this potentially dangerous infection should never again reach major proportions.



10. TuberculosisNew Cases and Mortality during 1965

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 45	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
	3		2		-		-	

The total cases still on the register is the same as as  
31st December 1964.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Respiratory	25	15	40
Non-Respiratory	6	4	10
	<u>31</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>50</u>





GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The following services are administered by the Lancashire County Council through the No. 14 Health Divisional Office at "Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton.

1. Maternity and Child Welfare Service
2. Midwifery Services
3. Health Visiting Service
4. Home Nursing Service
5. Vaccination and Immunisation
6. Ambulance Service
7. 'Care' and 'After Care' Services
8. Home Help Service
9. Mental Health Service
10. Care of Aged and Handicapped  
(under National Assistance Act).

CLINICS

Regular sessions of the following clinics are held at Milton Street, Royton, as follows:

Ante-natal and post-natal :	Every Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock
Maternity and Child Welfare:	Every Monday and Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock

HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES

Three full-time Health Visitor/School Nurses are now employed, together with one School/Clinic Nurse, all being based at the Milton Street Clinic.

DAY NURSERIES

There is one 50 place day nursery at Radcliffe Street which is the responsibility of the County Council. There are also industrial nurseries as follows:

Bee and Lion Day Nursery  
Royton Ring Mill Day Nursery  
Royton Textile Corporation Day Nursery  
Monarch Mill Day Nursery

Application for admission to the Radcliffe Street Day Nursery, which is open daily from 7-30 a.m. to 6 p.m. should be made direct to the Matron. Charges are based on an income scale prescribed by the Lancashire County Council.

UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council in conjunction with Voluntary Moral Welfare Organisations.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE

Two domiciliary midwives serve the district. The ante-natal clinic is held at the school clinic, Milton Street, on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The midwives are:

Mrs. A. Cheetham	Chamber Road, Shaw. (SH9 7301)
Miss A. Turner	54 Milton Street, Royton. (MAIn 5669)

DISTRICT NURSING

There are two district nurses serving in the district and one male nurse is available for certain cases:

Miss S. Todd	11 Stottfield, Royton. (MAIn 2896)
Mrs. E. Brock	2 Dale Square, Royton. (MAIn 6593)
Mr. C. S. Croasdale	19 Garforth Street, Chadderton. (MAIn 6903)



VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Protective vaccination and immunisation is now routinely offered to all children against the following diseases: Smallpox, Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough. Oral poliomyelitis vaccination is available for all between 6 months and 40 years of age, and certain other priority groups (e.g. expectant mothers) over 40 years. B.C.G. Vaccine (against Tuberculosis) is offered to school children found to be Tuberculin-negative at about 13 years of age.

Arrangements for such immunisation may be made either to the school clinic or with Local General Practitioners.

AMBULANCE

The ambulance service is administered by the Health Division No. 14, ambulances being under Radio-Control from a control centre at Radcliffe (RAD 3021). The district is served by vehicles based on Crompton and Middleton ambulance stations.

TUBERCULOSIS

The Chest Clinic is situated in the Oldham and District General Hospital where all suspected cases of Tuberculosis are referred, and where infants may be vaccinated against Tuberculosis.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Home Helps are available for various classes of illness, priority being given to maternity cases, the elderly and infirm. Application for the services of a Home Help should be made to the Divisional Medical Officer.

WELFARE SERVICES

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council residential accommodation for persons in need of care and attention not otherwise available, is now provided at seven hostels controlled by Health Division 14. There is, however, a waiting list for accommodation.

The statutory services comprising health visitors, home nurses, home helps and laundry service, co-operate with the voluntary bodies providing chiropody, home visiting, meals-on-wheels, etc. in order to enable old people to continue to live in their own homes whenever possible.

CARE OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CHILDREN ACT 1948

The work in connection with Infant Life Protection and Adoption of Children is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

The Area Children's Officer for this district is based at Enville House, Scotland Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, telephone No. ASHton 4338.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The Divisional Medical Officer and Assistant Divisional Medical Officer are also School Medical Officers. Clinics are held at Milton Street, Royton, as follows:-

Minor Ailments	-	Every Monday and Thursday morning
* Ophthalmic	-	Alternate Monday mornings
* Dental	-	Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning.

\* by appointment.





HOSPITAL SERVICE

Hospitals normally utilised by patients from Royton are:

General and Maternity  
cases:

Oldham and District General  
Hospital.

Oldham Royal Infirmary.

Infectious Diseases:

Westhulme Hospital,  
Oldham.

Monsall Hospital,  
Manchester.



Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
ROYTON.

September 1965.

Mr.Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

The year under review has been one in which housing has taken a leading part not only with the representation of unfit houses but with the carrying out of a major survey of the whole district. This was carried out on the Council's instructions to determine the anticipated life of properties in Royton. From this, lists have been approved by Council whereby certain properties will receive more detailed examination over the next twenty years.

During much of the year it was necessary to spend a great deal of time on milk sampling at the local farms, following the outbreaks of milk infections with the organism Brucella.

The refuse collection has again been under strain. We have been through a period when workmen were just not available and although we live in a time of automation this is one necessity of life which has so far eluded the assistance of the ideal machine. I would also stress a further point that we tend to take what I consider a negative view in that consideration is given only to the houses there are inhabited in the district and no thought given to the hundreds that are being built and will need to be catered for. Consequently, this section of the department will always be behind unless a really big step is taken to advance the present conditions.

In conclusion, may I place on record my sincere appreciation for the advice and guidance so readily given by Dr.Brackenridge and my thanks to members of my staff for their help in the production of this report.

I am, Mr.Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,  
Your Obedient Servant,

C.BUCKLEY.

Senior Public Health Inspector.



SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

The first Smoke Control Area (Flake Lane) covering 119 houses has been operative since November 1959. During 1962 No. 2 Smoke Control Area (Oozewood and Tandle Hill district) covering 185 acres and including 187 properties was surveyed. This second Smoke Control Order was made by the Council on 31st July 1962, and ultimately received Ministerial confirmation on 18th January 1963, and became operative on 1st September 1963.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTIONMeasurement

Various methods are available, depending on what particular constituent is to be measured. In common with the surrounding districts, Royton is a member of the South East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee.

Briefly, the lead peroxide gauge, situated in Royton Park, consists of a louvred box containing a material coated with a chemical which reacts with the sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere. The chemical analysis of this instrument is taken monthly. With the volumetric instrument situated in the sewage works, air is drawn through a chemical solution, which retains the sulphur content of the air. The quantity of air passing through the instrument is measured, and so a more positive resultant figure is achieved. An attachment is incorporated with this instrument, which filters the air drawn into it, giving what is known as a 'smoke stain'; the results of the volumetric apparatus are collated each day.

Individual findings are subject to so many variable factors, that a true interpretation of results in any district can only be based on repeated observations at a large number of points over a period of years. Nor can the results in any one district be fairly related to those in another, unless, amongst other things, the siting of the instruments are fully comparable. It is the practice in interpreting the results, to compare summer and winter periods with the like periods.

The following table shows the readings obtained for each month of 1963, 1964 and 1965 from the lead peroxide instrument located in the district of Royton. The volumetric instrument has been closed down owing to the lack of staff and pressure of other work.

Estimation of Sulphur Dioxide expressed as mgmsMg.SO<sub>3</sub>/day/100 cm<sup>2</sup>Batch A.PbO<sub>2</sub>

(Louvred Cover)

Site - Royton Park

YEAR	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
1965	2.73	1.46	2.43	1.50	1.23	1.02	0.85	1.02	1.16	-	-	-
1964	-	-	2.80	1.59	1.48	0.91	0.86	0.72	1.32	1.65	2.32	2.51
1963	3.92	2.84	2.39	1.68	1.68	2.20	0.87	0.90	1.17	1.68	2.39	-







Water Supply

The Urban District is supplied with water by the Oldham Corporation Waterworks Department from their moorland gathering grounds on the Pennine Range to the north east of Oldham. Royton is fed from the Piethorn and Hanging Lees reservoirs and all supplies are treated for pH correction and then chlorinated. The Oldham Corporation Water Works Department take weekly bacteriological samples from these two sources and in addition chemical samples are taken quarterly. Further samples are taken for bacteriological examination from premises throughout the whole area supplied by Oldham Corporation and during 1965 twentythree such samples were taken within the Royton district.

23 samples were submitted  
by Oldham Corporation

Results	
Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
23	Nil

There are, however, a number of properties in the district which are supplied with water from private wells and springs. These premises, approximately 30 in number, are situated in the more isolated parts of Royton at Thorp, Royley Clough and Heyside (Bull Cote Lane). In the case of supplies from these wells, advice on the usage of the water was given.

Sewage and Drainage

Sewage is treated at the Council's Sewage Disposal Works at Streetbridge in detritus and precipitation tanks, afterwards passing through the percolating filters to humus tanks and thence the effluent is discharged into the River Irk. Sludge Drying Beds are provided. The only areas of the district without a proper drainage system are isolated farm communities and a few domestic properties.

Factories

33 inspections were made during the year. With the exception of 2, these factories were found to comply with the requirements of the Act. The offending factories had the necessary repairs carried out after informal action.

Although slow progress is being made, it is unfortunate that much of the routine work of inspections and surveys on these premises has to be left owing to the lack of time available to the inspector.



FACTORY ACT INSPECTIONS

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	2	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	79	31	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	89	33	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted  (6)
	Found  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Clean- liness (S.1)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temp. (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate vent- ilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conven- iences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Out-work).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	-	-





3. Outwork

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of Prosecutions of failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Preparing Apparel						
Making etc.	3	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning & Washing.	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	-	-	-	-	-

Public Cleansing

This service has a complement of twelve men with two S & D Freighter Collection vehicles. Tip control is aided by the part-time use of a wheeled dozer of the 990 David Brown type, all transport and drivers are under the control of the Transport Dept., to whom any requisition has to be made.

Efforts to maintain the service of emptying the dustbins with some regularity were made but at times with troublesome bouts of sickness this was not possible. Holiday time is another period when the rounds get upset as there are no workmen available to employ as temporary refuse collectors.

With the rapid growth of house building it is essential that the refuse collection service be increased in strength. In this day and age it is expected that a weekly collection, at least, be maintained throughout the year. This will cause an increase in the cost of the service but the present day public expect a more regular service.

The present composition of household refuse is such that it is increasing in bulk with less ash content which causes many problems. Cover for the tip has to be transported to the site and the nature of the refuse occupies more space and does not consolidate as easily as in the past. Tipping space is being used up at a faster rate than has been known in the past. In order that the fullest use can be made of tipping space which at the present time is at a premium it behoves the authority to reduce the bulk of refuse to a minimum before tipping. This leads to consideration being given to increasing the rate of extraction of saleable items and/or the incineration of combustible items.

Dustbins

The dustbins are replaced by the Council, the cost being borne by the rate fund. 196 dustbins were supplied during the year under this replacement scheme. In addition, 165 dustbins were sold principally to houseowners in new properties.

Paper Baling

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Amount baled during 1964	139	6	1	sold for 696	11	3
Amount baled during 1965	144	12	1	" 1156	18	0





Scrap Metal

	Tons.	Cwt.	Qrs.		£	s.	d.
Amount collected during 1964	4	12	1	sold for	16	5	9
Amount collected during 1965	8	1	0	"	29	9	0

String

Amount collected during 1965 = 18 cwts was sold for £8 8s. 0d.

It is pleasing to be able to report on the increases in the sale of salvaged material. There has been an appreciable increase in the monetary returns for these items. I consider that whilst the market is holding steady, more use ought to be made of the salvaging of paper.

Sanitary Accommodation

The following table shows the approximate number of the various sanitary conveniences in the district at the end of the year.

Closets

Privy - midden closets	Nil
Pail Closets	30
Trough Closets	Nil
Waste Water Closets	232
Fresh Water Closets	6443

Of the 6281 houses in the district, less than 1% are not on the water carriage system but there still remains 232 waste water closets. During the year 24 waste water closets were converted to fresh water closets under the local scheme.

Shops and Offices

39 routine inspections of shops were made during the year. There is still a great amount of routine work left, owing to lack of staff.

This figure, when compared with the total number of shops in the district, indicates that it has only been possible to touch on the fringe of the work required of the department. If the standard of hygiene is to be raised much more time must be given to this branch of the inspector's duties.

This is the second year of operation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act and although 23 such premises were inspected it still falls far short of the anticipated figure. It has only been possible to inspect the new registrations.

Swimming Baths

The Baths were extensively reconstructed in 1961-62.

The Building now houses one plunge bath, 10 slipper baths, and 2 vapour baths.

The plunge bath is 75 feet long, 27 feet wide and a graduated depth along its length from 3 feet 3 inches to 6 feet 3 inches. The feed water in the plunge bath is supplied from the town's main, and there is a continuous circulation treatment of the water, whilst in use. Water being drawn from the deep end of the bath is chlorinated, filtered, reheated and finally aerated before being returned to the shallow end of the plunge. The time for a complete change of water through the circulatory system is 4½ hours.



The temperature of the water in the plunge is maintained at approximately 76°F., and tests to determine the alkalinity or otherwise of the water are taken three or more times daily as the circumstances demand. The figures maintained are:-

<u>Chlorine</u>	pH value	7.8	
	alkalinity	2 p.p.	1,000,000
	residual	1 p.p.	1,000,000
	combined	1.5 p.p.	1,000,000

On one side of the entrance hall there are 5 slipper and one vapour bath for men, and on the other side of the hall are 5 slipper baths and one vapour bath for ladies. Sanitary accommodation is provided at suitable positions throughout the building.

The conditions of the baths have been fully satisfactory.

### Rodent Control

One trained Rodent Operative is employed part-time on this work. Regular surveys were made and all complaints given prompt attention. All sewers in the district received two treatments in accordance with the methods approved by the responsible Ministry, and routine inspections and treatments were made at other Council properties.

The South East Lancashire Advisory Committee meets twice yearly under the auspices of the Divisional Rodent Office, joint action is planned between representatives when necessary.

The following table shows the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the period under review:-

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.

(1) No. of rodent operatives employed - (a) Full time - none  
(b) Part time - one

(2) Action relating to rodent control during the year -

	Type of Property		
	Non-Agricultural		Agricultural
	Dwellinghouses	All Other	
No. of Properties in district	6281	420	18
No. of Properties inspected	197	147	18
Total inspections carried out (inc. re-inspections)	597	435	33
No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:			
Rats - major	-	-	-
minor	79	36	5
Mice - major	-	-	-
minor	58	18	-
No. of infested properties treated.	137	54	5
Total treatments carried out (inc. re-treatments).	411	166	12
No. of "Block" control schemes carried out.	-	-	-

### Any Other Action

Twice yearly treatment of Public Sewers in the District - (March and September).





Food Premises

76 visits were made to food premises during the year. With the constantly recurring emphasis on outbreaks of food poisoning and dysentery, this is not a happy state of affairs. All food premises should be regularly visited as a matter of routine, but this was an impossibility with the existing staff.

The following are the various types of premises in the district where food is prepared or sold:

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>No.</u>
General Grocers and provision dealers	58
Greengrocers and fruiterers	15
Fishmongers	1
Meat Shops (Butchers, etc.)	20
Bakers and/or confectioners	36
Fried fish shops	11
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, etc.	24
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, etc.	56
Others	8

Milk Supply

Milk distributors	49
Dealer's licences -	
pasteurised milk	6
sterilised milk	45
tuberculin tested milk	7
Supplementary licences -	
pasteurised milk	14
sterilised milk	15
tuberculin tested milk	15

Sampling milk is carried out by Officers of the Lancashire County Council.

Milk Sampling - Brucellosis

From reports received in the department it became evident that certain farmers within the district were milking cows which had become infected with the Brucella organism. This meant that early morning sampling had to be resorted to and the table below sets out the results of these visits.

It is pleasing to report that the farmers gave their fullest co-operation during the sampling of the milk and for this I am sincerely grateful. Their readiness to do their best to improve the milk yield and to produce a good quality milk is to be commended. This included in several instances the slaughter of infected animals.

I know this type of problem has received some deep thought at Central Government level and it would be interesting if a solution has been formulated.

Total No. of Samples submitted = 250	Results		
	Positive	Negative	No result
a. Tuberculosis	-	-	-
b. Brucellosis - Ring test	166	70	-
c. " - Culture test	37	194	1
d. " - Biological test	23	49	8



Sampling Food

I am indebted to Dr.S.C.Gawne, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following particulars of samples taken within the district.

A total of 78 samples was obtained comprising, 43 Milks (7 of which were Channel Islands milks) and 35 others as follows:-

1 Liquid Paraffin Emulsion	1 Fruit, canned
1 Ferrodic Tablets	2 Suet, shredded
1 Rapid Energy Tablets	5 Marmalade
1 Beef sausages	1 Fruit Curd
3 Flour confectionery	1 Pickles
1 Pickled onions	2 Oatmeal
1 Barm Cakes	3 Fruit, dried
3 Sweets	1 Milk, condensed, full cream unsweetened
1 Blackcurrant cordial	1 Pork sausage
2 Mincemeat	1 Milk, condensed, skimmed, sweetened.
1 Table Jelly	
1 Marzipan	

I give below details of those samples upon which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
1 formal milk	Deficient 18.3% fat	Farm cautioned and further sample obtained
1 Beef sausages	Contained preservative with declaration	Vendor cautioned
1 Mincemeat	Soluble solids by refractometer only 64.6% should be not less than 65%	None advised

Slaughterhouse & Meat Inspection

Up to July and since the operation of the Meat Inspection Regulations the Department has been embarrassed in not being able to satisfy either itself or the Ministry by carrying out 100% inspection of animals slaughtered. However, following many discussions with the proprietors of the private slaughterhouses, steady improvements were made until finally the goal was reached.

With the employment of two full-time meat inspectors it has become increasingly evident that proper control of the slaughtering hours is long overdue. At the time of writing this it is pleasing to report that measures are being considered to control these extended hours.

It is an interesting exercise to consider the amount of meat passing through the slaughterhouses in this Urban District. Converting the throughput into units of 10, 3 and 2 for beasts, pigs and calves and sheep respectively, the total unit is 243,373. The unit figure for fresh meat consumption in the district is 24,300. It, therefore, follows that the burden of meat inspection falling on this authority is equal to a population of over 162,000.





CARCASE AND OFFAL inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	7405	2222	19	48372	16767
Number Inspected	6805	2038	19	44002	15440
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	2	1	41
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	971	835	1	4442	4591
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	14.3%	40.9%	16%	10.1%	30%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	5.6%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalized and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

The following amounts of meat were found to be unfit for food at the slaughterhouses.

	Tons.	Cwts.	lbs.
Due to other diseases - Carcase meat	3	15	70
Offal	10	2	64
Total:	13	18	22

The condemned meat is collected and disposed off by an approved trader.

UNSOUND FOOD

The following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for consumption on examination:

		lb
Tinned Apples	Consignment	5022
" Ham	"	3900
" Ham	Individual	192
" Livers	"	110
Frozen Livers	"	126
Salami	"	75½





HOUSINGNumber of new dwellings erected during the year

1. By the local authority	Houses	81
	Flats	-
2. By other local authorities	Houses	-
	Flats	-
3. By other bodies or persons	Houses	474
	Flats	-

Total No. of dwellings owned by any local authority, existing in district at end of year .. 1082

Inspections of dwellings during the year

1a. Total No. of dwellings inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	477
b. No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose ..	615
c. No. of dwellings in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ..	113
2. Total No. of dwellings existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which -	
a. Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time) ..	96
b. Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made ..	445

Houses Demolished(a)In or Adjoining Clearance Areas:

Houses unfit for human habitation ..	42
Persons displaced during year from houses to be demolished or closed ..	114
Families displaced during year from houses to be demolished or closed ..	49

(b)Not in or Adjoining Clearance Areas:

As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.16 or S.17(1), Housing Act 1957 ..	2
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Unfit Houses Made Fit

By owner after informal action by local authority ..	88
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\*House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 and Housing Act, 1961 and 1964 - Standard Grants

Action during year:	<u>No. of dwellings or other buildings affected.</u>
1. Applications submitted to local authority for improvement to (a) full standard	61
(b) reduced standard	-
2. Total applications approved by local authority for improvement to (a) full standard	59
(b) reduced standard	-
3. Work completed	73
4. Particulars of any action taken relating to compulsory improvement of dwellings:	
	Two disapproved - insufficient life in property.

\*With regard to the compilation of the above figures I wish to express my thanks to the Engineer and Surveyor.











